

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-07

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN
SUBJECT: ZIA'S TALK WITH JAGJIVAN RAM REGARDING BORDER SITUATION

R1. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSION OF THE FARAKKA
PROBLEM (SEPTTEL), FOREIGN SECRETARY TABARAK HUSAIN
TOLD ME DECEMBER 13 THAT DETAILED DISCUSSIONS HAD
ALSO BEEN HELD WITH JAGJIVAN RAM DURING HIS RECENT
VISIT TO DACCA REGARDING THE BORDER SITUATION.
AFTER A GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH ZIA ON FARAKKA AND
RELATED MATTERS, TABARAK SAID HE AND JAGJIVAN RAM'S
STAFF WITHDREW, LEAVING THE TWO PRINCIPALS ALONE.

2. ZIA THEN OUTLINED FOR JAGJIVAN RAM IN DETAIL THE SITUATION
ALONG THE BORDER AS DACCA SEES IT. ZIA STRESSED THE
IMPORTANCE BANGLADESH ATTACHES TO THIS MATTER AND
THE ESSENTIAL NEED TO END THE PRESENT INCURSIONS
BEFORE IRREPARABLE DAMAGE IS DONE TO BILATERAL
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.

3. ON SPECIFICS, ZIA TOLD JAGJIVAN RAM THAT THE
BDG WOULD HELP IN ANY WAY INDIA BELIEVED USEFUL
IN NEUTRALIZING THE "BIG FISH" (BANGLADESHI
DISSIDENTS) WHO ARE NOW RESIDENT IN INDIA. AT
THE SAME TIME, ZIA SAID HE HOPED THE GOI WOULD
NOT REPEAT NOT SUPPORT THE SMALL DISSIDENTS WHO
WERE MOVING BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE BORDER SINCE
WITHOUT EXTERNAL SUPPORT THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD

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WITHER ON THE VINE.

4. TABARAK SAID JAGJIVAN RAM TOOK THIS SERIOUSLY
AND SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH INDIRA
GHANDI. WHILE HEDGING HIS BETS, TABARAK IS
CAUTIOUSLY HOPEFUL THAT SOMETHING MIGHT BE WORKED
OUT.
MASTERS

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NNN

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